

SUMMER 2021

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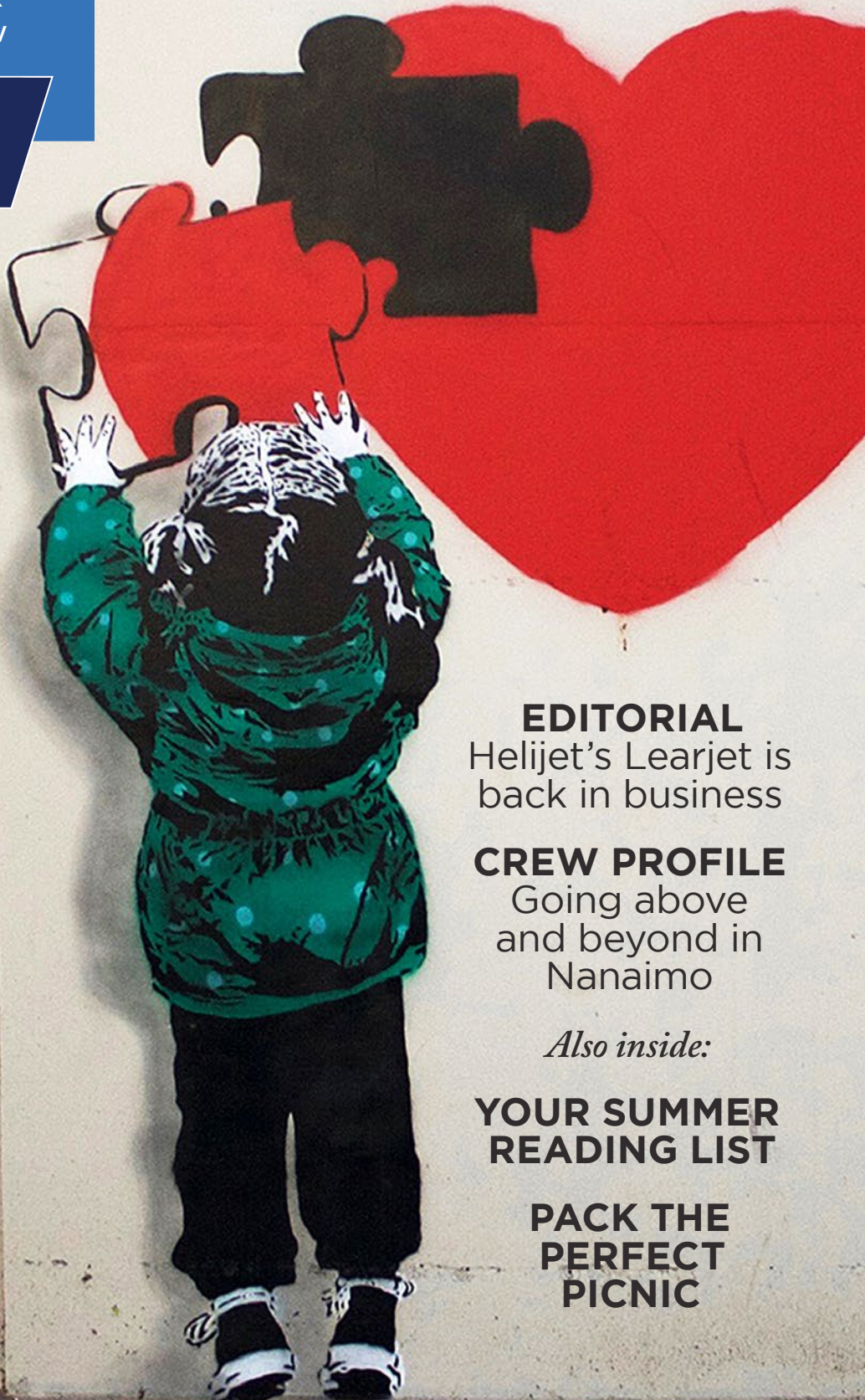
IN•FLIGHT REVIEW

**Helijet**

Find "The Missing Piece" by Vancouver street artist iHeart in the alleyway behind 5 East 8th Avenue

# THE POWER OF THE PAINT BRUSH

Vancouver Mural Festival builds community one paint stroke at a time



## EDITORIAL

Helijet's Learjet is back in business

## CREW PROFILE

Going above and beyond in Nanaimo

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# En Route with Helijet

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This map is not intended for navigation



SUMMER 2021

**IFR**  
IN-FLIGHT REVIEW

**Helijet**

## In-Flight Review Magazine

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# HELIJET FLEET



SIKORSKY S-76A



SIKORSKY S-76C+ (BC AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE)



SIKORSKY S-76C++



LEARJET 31A/ER



EUROCOPTER AS350 B2



PILATUS PC-12NG

By Amundee Nahal  
Chief Pilot — Fixed-Wing, Helijet

# Back in Business

Helijet's Learjet 31A/ER is a high-speed business jet with a range of 1,800 miles. Operating up to 51,000 feet at Mach 0.81, it can reach most destinations in Western North America in a matter of hours. Photo: Heath Moffatt

## Helijet's Learjet puts the "Jet" back in Helijet

**S**OONER OR LATER, the fickle finger of fate taps everyone on the shoulder, for better and worse. In March 2020 I was a First Officer flying a Boeing 767 for All Nippon Airways (ANA) in Japan. The job was great, the experience unique, and my family was enjoying the expat lifestyle. The following month I was unemployed with no job prospects and no social safety net. Like hundreds of other Canadian overseas pilots, I went from having breakfast in Brisbane and supper in Singapore to an all-you-can-eat dinner of disbelief. I returned to Vancouver with my family and set about finding work, but air carriers everywhere were laying off pilots in droves and my professional future seemed doubtful.

After almost a year of job hunting I was alerted to a posting at Helijet for the position of Chief Pilot — Fixed-Wing, flying the company's Learjet 31A/ER (C-GHJU). Competition for the position was fierce, but I was fortunate to have the balance of management and relevant business jet experience the company was looking for. I joined the company in March of this year and after several weeks of company indoctrination and aircraft training I was appointed Chief Pilot — Fixed-Wing and Captain on the Learjet.

The Learjet is a real pilot's airplane: it's nimble, responsive to a pilot's hands and feet inputs, and the performance is phenomenal. The aircraft is certified to fly at a speed of Mach 0.81 (81 per cent the speed of sound) up to an altitude of 51,000 feet. The name says something, too. Learjet is a legacy aerospace manufacturer with a reputation for proven, safe and reliable business jets.

Passengers also appreciate the aircraft's capabilities. In corporate configuration Helijet's Lear can carry six people with personal bags up to 1,800 miles



Such is the case with activating Helijet's Lear. Like most air carriers, the company's normal operations were significantly impacted by pandemic travel restrictions imposed since March 2020. The result is that scheduled service declined throughout the industry, but private charters and air medical transport has actually increased in some respects. New and unforeseen opportunities abound, and I look forward to what the future may deliver in the years ahead as we expand and grow Helijet's fixed-wing flight department. **H**

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BY SUE DUNHAM

# Customers & Colleagues

A LOT OF YOUNG men and women eventually leave the small hometowns they grew up in, lured away by the bright lights of big cities. Not so, Annie Hayward, Helijet's Lead Agent — Client Relations in Nanaimo. She grew up in Chemainus on Vancouver Island, and has no interest in leaving any time soon.

"I was born and raised on the Island," says Hayward. "I moved to nearby Ladysmith for a few years, but my fiancée and I recently bought a home in Chemainus. We plan on settling down here. It's close to both our jobs and we love exploring the Island in our truck camper on weekends — everywhere from Port Renfrew to Tofino, and points in between."

Hayward worked in the hotel industry and retail for several years after high school, but when Helijet opened its base of operations in Nanaimo in 2015 she jumped at the chance to join the company. Starting as a Passenger Service Agent (PSA), she found she enjoyed all aspects of the job, from checking-in and boarding passengers to working the company's telephone reservation system between flights. She excelled as a PSA and now functions as Lead Agent at the Nanaimo Heliport.

"I really enjoy working with customers," says Hayward. "In my role I get to talk with different people throughout the day. It's a pleasure helping them with their travel plans, getting them to where they need to go." She adds, "Over time you get to know some of them and develop a personal connection."

Friendships with her Helijet colleagues is also a big plus of the job.

"The company treats employees well, and all the staff and pilots are extremely nice to work with," says Hayward. "The team here in Nanaimo are all friends, and everyone is very positive. We all enjoy going



Annie Hayward has enjoyed working with customers and colleagues at Helijet's Nanaimo base since she joined the company in September 2015.

above and beyond for each other and our customers."

Hayward also enjoys the nature of operations at the Nanaimo base. Whether it's assisting passengers on scheduled and charter flights, or lending a hand with air ambulance operations, every day presents something unique. She says COVID-19 presented a range of challenges to her and her colleagues at first,



**“We all enjoy going above and beyond for each other and our customers.”**

**Annie Hayward**

Lead Agent — Client Relations at  
Helijet’s Nanaimo Harbour Heliport



but what she misses most is the excitement and variety of normal operations: “Things went pretty quiet for a while, but we’re looking forward to more positive news in the weeks and months ahead as the vaccine rollout continues.” She adds, “I know customers and colleagues alike are looking forward to an eventual increase in passenger traffic.” 📢

  
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Photo: Royal BC Museum



## ORCAS: OUR SHARED FUTURE ON NOW UNTIL JANUARY 9, 2022

Take a deep dive into the science and stories of the mighty orca at the Royal BC Museum's highly anticipated feature exhibit *Orcas: Our Shared Future*. Learn about this apex predator through immersive games, interactive stations and more than 100 artifacts, including three life-size orca replicas, Indigenous cultural objects and a specially commissioned mural by Haida manga artist Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas. [royalbcmuseum.bc.ca](http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca)



## TD VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL JUNE 25-JULY 4, 2021

The Coastal Jazz & Blues Society won't let a pandemic stop the music. This year the festival celebrates its 35th edition with more than 100 streamed performances by artists from B.C., New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Amsterdam and Paris. Check out audience favourites Snotty Nose Rez Kids, Dee Daniels, the Peggy Lee Band, Jill Barber and many, many more. Purchase access to a single performance or choose a streaming package and revel in the groove. [coastaljazz.ca](http://coastaljazz.ca)

Photo: Tourism Vancouver / Albert Normandin

## IMAGINE VAN GOGH: THE IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION

ON NOW UNTIL AUGUST 29, 2021

No need to elbow your way through a crowd to get a good look at some of van Gogh's most memorable works in this contemporary display. Set up inside Vancouver Convention Centre West, more than 200 of van Gogh's masterpieces are projected onto the massive walls and expansive floor, synchronized to the music of great classical composers.

[imagine-vangogh.com](http://imagine-vangogh.com)

## VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

MAY 31-JUNE 13, 2021

Always a hit with kids and parents alike, the Vancouver International Children's Festival has reimagined the fun for 2021 with an online line-up of music, dance, theatre and storytelling. Offering a mix of live online and pre-recorded performances, festival organizers are showing their support for families this year by adding an extra seven days of unlimited streaming access and pay-what-you-can pricing. [childrensfestival.ca](http://childrensfestival.ca)

## SAME OLD, SAME OLD

JUNE 8-13, 2021

Actor Jan Wood and director/writer James Fagan Tait return to Victoria's Belfry Theatre to write and star in *Same Old, Same Old*, a deeply funny and touching new play about a long-married couple and the daily moments that make up their lives and their love. This filmed production is available for viewing exclusively on the scheduled dates. [belfry.bc.ca](http://belfry.bc.ca)



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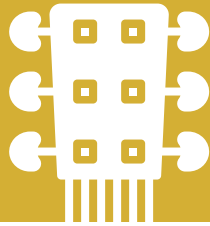
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## Carnaval del Sol 2021

JULY 1-24, 2021



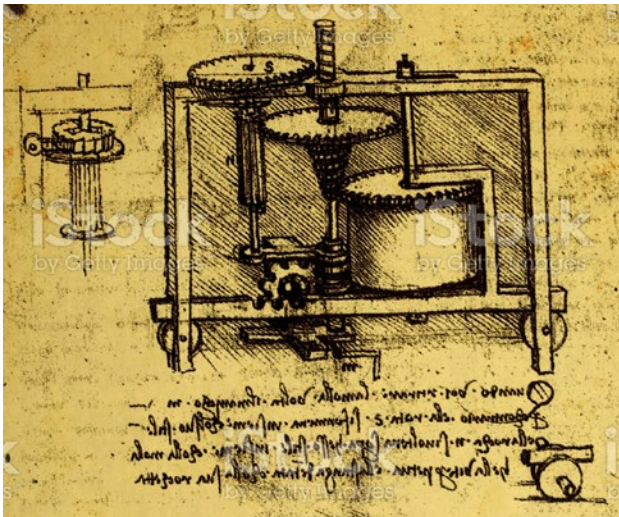
Vancouver's own Carnaval del Sol is the biggest Latin American festival in the Pacific Northwest. Run by Latincouver since 2008, the festival will once again return this year as a hybrid experience showcasing Latinx artists, musicians, food vendors, creators and businesses in the Vancouver area. [carnavaldelsol.ca](http://carnavaldelsol.ca)

## THE DA VINCI EXPERIENCE

OPENING JUNE 2021

Described as a “multi-sensory journey,” the Da Vinci Experience will make its Canadian debut at Tsawwassen Mills in South Delta this summer. Occupying a 4,000-square-foot space in the mall, the exhibit incorporates virtual reality technology, projections on the walls and floor, and 10 model replicas built to scale of the genius' machines and inventions.

[sensea.show/canada](http://sensea.show/canada)



Bill Reid carving the Skidegate Pole, 1976.  
Oil on canvas by Chris Hopkins.

## TO SPEAK WITH A GOLDEN VOICE

ON NOW UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

*To Speak With a Golden Voice* celebrates the milestone centennial birthday of Bill Reid (1920-1998), master goldsmith, sculptor, carver, community activist and mentor. Originally set to close in April 2021, the exhibit housed at his namesake gallery has been extended to early September and includes rarely seen treasures by Reid as well as works by both his contemporaries and successors who considered him an influence. [billreidgallery.ca](http://billreidgallery.ca)

## JAN WADE: SOUL POWER

JULY 10, 2021 TO MARCH 13, 2022

Drawing upon her lived experience as an African Canadian person and her mixed cultural heritage, Jan Wade's mixed-media paintings, textiles and sculptural objects reflect a sense of continuity between past and present. Her diverse body of works, which often use found objects and recycled materials, will be displayed alongside new pieces made specifically for this exhibition hosted by the Vancouver Art Gallery. [vanartgallery.bc.ca](http://vanartgallery.bc.ca)

## LISTEN TO THIS AUDIO PLAY SERIES

ON NOW UNTIL MARCH 11, 2022

The pandemic may have cleared out theatre seats for now, but that doesn't mean the show can't go on. Pivoting from live stage to audio plays and podcasts, the Arts Club is presenting four productions in their new series *Listen to This*. Each play is created by a Western Canadian playwright and all are directed by Arts Club artistic director Ashlie Corcoran. Purchase a play individually or buy the entire series and listen at your leisure. [artsclub.com](http://artsclub.com)

## BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM SUMMER SEASON

ON NOW UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

Turn the clock back a century and step into the 1920s when newfangled inventions like automobiles, radios and jazz were all the rage. Pick up a sweet treat from the Burnaby Village Museum's Ice Cream Parlour, pop by Wagner's Blacksmith Shop to watch a demonstration and spend a relaxed afternoon exploring the 36 other exhibit sites around the ten-acre property. Advanced online reservations are required, but admission is free. [burnabyvillagemuseum.ca](https://burnabyvillagemuseum.ca)

## BC FARMERS' MARKET TRAIL



Follow the BC Farmers' Market Trail to discover fresh, in-season food and artisan goods at more than 145 markets located throughout the province. Plug in your region, community, the day you want to shop or even the features you're looking for — from car charging stations to wheel chair accessibility — and chart your own route to ultra-local food and drink. Bonus: Save time by ordering online at select markets. [bcfarmersmarkettrail.com](https://bcfarmersmarkettrail.com)

## A SEAT AT THE TABLE: CHINESE IMMIGRATION AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

ON NOW UNTIL JANUARY 2022

Learn more about the vast diversity of historical and contemporary immigrant experiences in this collaborative exhibition taking place concurrently at both the Museum of Vancouver's Kitsilano site and the Hon Hsing Building in Chinatown. Using food and restaurant culture as its entry point, *A Seat at the Table* provides an opportunity to consider the contributions that Chinese migrants and their descendants have made to British Columbia while also addressing themes of belonging, racism, resilience and reparation. [museumofvancouver.ca](https://museumofvancouver.ca)



Photo: Destination BC/Jordan Dyck

## DR. SUN YAT-SEN SUMMER SEASON

ONGOING

Modeled after traditional Ming Dynasty scholars' garden-homes in China, the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden is an oasis of peace in the middle of the city. Book ahead for a guided tour for your family or let the kids search for hidden secrets using one of the printable scavenger hunts suitable for children ages four to 12. A new one-way path has been established throughout the garden to enable safer social distancing and time-slot tickets must be booked in advance. [vancouverchinesegarden.com](https://vancouverchinesegarden.com)



Photo: Destination BC/Grant Harder



# THE POWER OF THE PAINT BRUSH

*IN THE earliest days of the pandemic, Vancouver's downtown core almost immediately transformed from vibrant business district to deserted streetscape. Shops and restaurants were boarded over with walls of plywood, and the world took refuge at home.*

*"It was almost apocalyptic," recalls Andrea Curtis, executive director and co-founder of the Vancouver Mural Festival. "And I knew this was our job. That plywood needed to be painted now."*

*By Stephanie Cunningham*







Australian artist Fintan Magee is known for his portrait-style murals. Look up, way up to find this mural at East 11th Avenue and Kingsway. (Photo: Connor McCracken)



Argentinian artist Animalitoland has painted murals around the world, including "Presence" on West 7th Avenue. (Photo: Steff Love)



The Vancouver Mural Festival is a celebration of both art and community. (Photo: Gabriel Martins)



A wall becomes an evolving canvas during the VMF's annual Graffiti Jam. (Photo: Vanessa Tam)



SINCE ITS INCEPTION five years ago, the Vancouver Mural Festival (VMF) has created more than 250 murals around town. Its flagship annual event is typically held during the summer months, but as the city descended into pandemic restrictions, Curtis and her colleagues quickly shifted their focus to more immediate needs.

“Like so many other organizations, everything was suddenly up in the air about what we were going to be able to do that summer,” Curtis recalls. “In the midst of trying to work this out with our leadership team, I caught a newsletter from urbanYVR with photos of all the boarded-up buildings and it was enormous. I couldn’t believe that’s what our downtown looked like and I forwarded it to my colleagues and said, ‘This is it. Let’s go.’”

VMF organizers contacted the Downtown, South Granville and Robson business improvement associations and with the financial support of Vancity to help compensate artists for their work and contributions of paint made by the City of Vancouver, the wheels were soon set in motion. The plain plywood walls were quickly transformed into massive works of colourful art and a sense of optimistic determination took hold.

“It was one of those rare moments when I really didn’t feel I had to explain to anybody why art is powerful,” Curtis says.

### In the beginning

As a member of the band Hey Ocean!, VMF co-founder David Vertesi noticed that no matter what city he and the band visited on tour, they could always locate the local arts district because that’s where you would find the murals.

“Every major city has a mural district,” notes Curtis. “And even though Vancouver has the highest number of working artists per capita of any city in Canada, we don’t wear it on the outside.”

Upon his return to home soil, Vertesi met with business owners, city staff, artists, non-profits and

anyone else who would listen to his idea of a mural festival. His ultimate goal was not just to host a fun event, but to change the way Vancouver saw both art and itself.

His idea sparked the formation of a grassroots organization and in 2016 VMF painted its first 40 murals. “It was a tremendous amount of work that first year,” Curtis recalls, “and the moment it happened we knew we were on to something.”

Now much more than just a summer street party, the organization has evolved during its short life and produces two annual festivals, consults year-round on large-scale art, and produces a range of pop-up events.

### At its core

At the heart of each and every VMF project is the desire to create public art that is accessible, inclusive and reflects the diversity of the city in which it resides. It’s about community building.

“After the first year of murals went up, we didn’t really know what kind of impact it would have,” says Curtis.

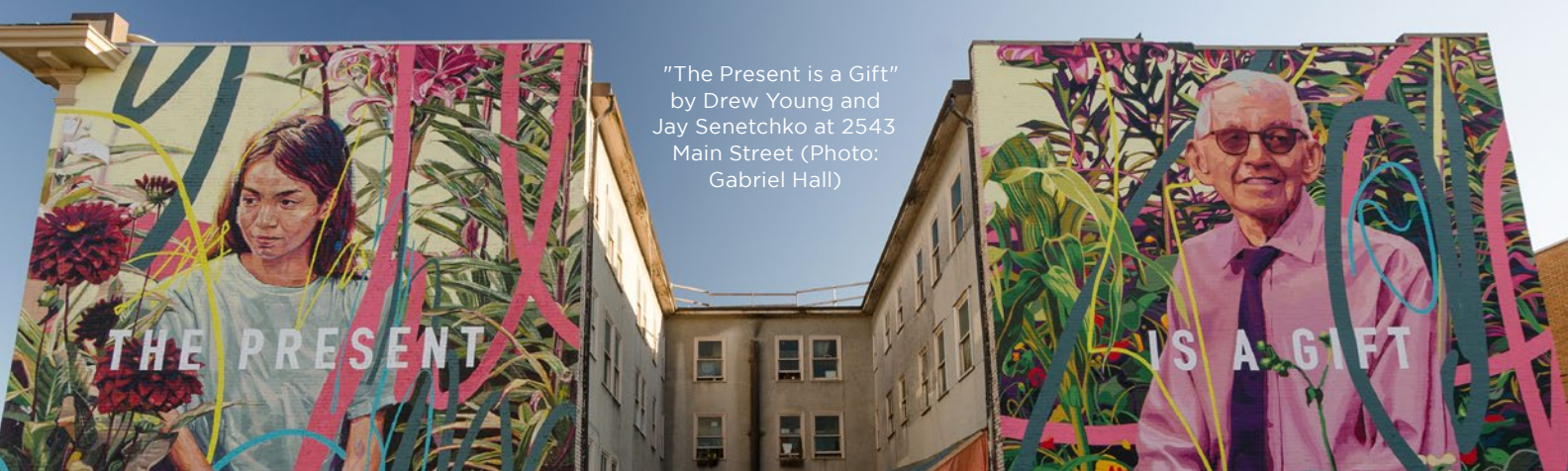
It didn’t take long before organizers, residents and businesses alike began to see a change. Not only did the murals transform public spaces, they made alleys feel safer to walk in, businesses more attractive, and walkways more welcoming for tourists.

“But what became really apparent to us was the power of visibility for different traditionally marginalized groups in the work that we’re doing,” says Curtis.

The depth of that impact was soon driven home when Musqueam artist and weaver Debra Sparrow called the VMF offices after seeing some photos of the festival murals on the cover of *The Georgia Straight*.

“She said, ‘Good job on Indigenous murals, but where’s the Musqueam?’” recalls Curtis. “We thought, good point. Let’s talk about this.”

Since that day in 2017, VMF has worked with Sparrow on her Blanketing the City mural concept. One of the first projects in the series was blanketing



"The Present is a Gift"  
by Drew Young and  
Jay Senetchko at 2543  
Main Street (Photo:  
Gabriel Hall)

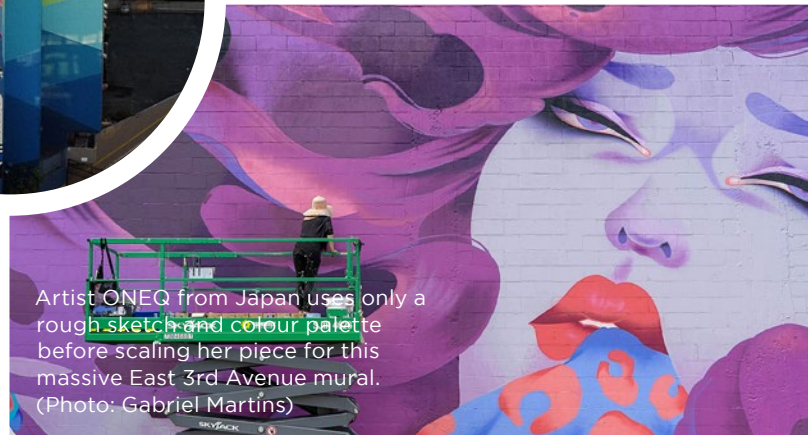




The vibrant mural on the former Biltmore Hotel is part of Musqueam artist Debra Sparrow's Blanketing the City series. (Photo: Pachamama Film)



Debra Sparrow's work beneath the Granville Street Bridge incorporates traditional blanket weaving designs. (Photo: Gabriel Hall)



Artist ONEQ from Japan uses only a rough sketch and colour palette before scaling her piece for this massive East 3rd Avenue mural. (Photo: Gabriel Martins)



VMP is a full family affair. Bring the kids and take a tour of the murals. (Photo: Gabriel Martins)

“

What became really apparent to us was the power of visibility for different traditionally marginalized groups.

*Andrea Curtis, co-founder, Vancouver Mural Festival*



two pillars under the Granville Street bridge with Musqueam designs.

“A lot of the designs that people think of as west coast art are usually Haida and northern coast art,” notes Curtis. “So, working with Debra has been a really exciting opportunity to not just showcase what is Coast Salish from this territory, but to show designs that have traditionally been created by women through their blanket weaving.”

### Black Strathcona Resurgence Project

VMF’s latest endeavour is the Black Strathcona Resurgence Project, for which the organization recently won a BC Heritage Award in the Education, Communications & Awareness category.

Painted by artist Anthony Joseph, the lively mural on the north face of the Georgia Viaduct is titled “Hope Through Ashes: A Requiem for Hogan’s Alley” – a reference to the area that was demolished more than 50 years ago to make way for the construction of the viaduct.

“In painting a mural about Hogan’s Alley on the Georgia Viaduct, I am adding art to the very instrument that led to the destruction of Vancouver’s first concentrated Black community,” says Joseph of his work.

In an effort to utilize public art as a means to reclaim and educate the public on Vancouver’s Black history, VMF has embarked on this three-year project with the goal of completing five to eight murals per year.

“The murals do feel like a bit of a Trojan Horse for us, being able to cloak really important and really intense social issues in celebration, in art, in creativity, and that’s our vehicle to drive the conversation forward in a positive way,” says Curtis.

### Going virtual

After seeing the positive response to its #MakeArt-WhileApart initiative during the early days of the pandemic, VMF was keen to find other ways to help the city build back better and support the local tourism industry in a way that was both safe and distanced.

As every Vancouverite knows, February is a dark and damp month and can be a bit of a let-down after the hype of the holidays and with little else going on in the city. Thus, the idea of a VMF Winter Arts Festival was born as a counterbalance to the gloom.

Converging 2D with technology, 14 large pillars covered in 25 works of art were installed in various locations around the downtown core and in the Mount Pleasant area. Standing in front of these, viewers could scan a QR code with their phone and an augmented reality artwork would pop up on screen.

To make it all happen, VMF worked with Indigenous virtual reality artists from the IM4 Lab at Emily Carr, other local artists and creators from around the world.

The public’s response was unexpected: “It was the middle of a pandemic in February, and we had over 30,000 scans of those QR codes,” says Curtis.

### The proverbial “mural goggles”

VMF may still be a young organization, but its track record is impressive.

To date, VMF has directed more than \$2 million to artists, their projects and their training. Ninety-two per cent of its artists are local, 47 per cent are women and non-binary, and 45 (20 per cent) are Indigenous.

Its business model has also evolved. In the early days, VMF was supported by the City of Vancouver through its innovation fund. “When the innovation fund had run its course, we were really fortunate to access support at the federal and provincial levels,” says Curtis.

“More than anything, bringing on board a lot of local businesses – from the local café that gave us a wall to some of the biggest developers in the province – that’s helped support our work. We now have a business model that operates with grants, but we also work with project partners.”

We often think of murals as just for walls but take a look at some of VMF’s past works and you’ll soon notice that it includes artwork on concrete road barriers and even dumpster bins.

“When you start working with the Vancouver Mural Festival you’re handed a set of proverbial ‘mural goggles,’” says Curtis, “and it really doesn’t take long



**PHOTO (left):** Not all murals are on walls. “Waste Wear,” a mural series by Tyler Toews, can be found on seven Powell Street dumpsters in Gastown. (Photo: Gabriel Martins)





Anthony Joseph's award-winning mural "Hope Through Ashes: A Requiem for Hogan's Alley" stretches along the west side of Main Street on Union Street, depicting the legacy of Black resilience in Vancouver. (Photo: Lisa Wong)

for our new staff to walk around the city and see any enormous flat surface as a potential mural wall.

"We spy walls that we want, and we go after them. We knock on doors, we ask for permission, we seek funding and then some businesses just come to us."

As for artists, every year the festival takes in anywhere between 600 to 800 artist applications from around the world. First and foremost, curators choose emerging and local talent, but the festival also likes to book some of the international "big guns" as well.

"There's kind of a crew of travelling rock stars that go from city to city around the world painting enormous buildings," Curtis says. "Watching them paint is other-worldly: they are so adept and so fast at scaling these buildings and they put art on them in an impossibly short amount of time. It's incredible to watch."



## Summer sizzle

With so many projects on the go, VMF is busy year-round, but the festival's roots are still planted in its summer street event, which in pre-pandemic 2019 drew some 150,000 spectators. And although this year's festival to be held August 4 to 22nd will look different yet again, Curtis is confident they have a plan that works.

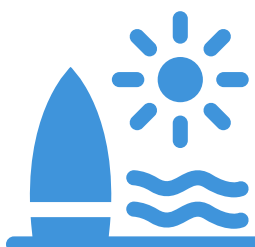
"Art is a very solitary thing and last year during our pandemic pivot our artists were able to work safely alone. Any of our crew who were helping were able to suit up in PPE and along with additional safety requirements we could make sure that support to the artists was distanced and safe," she says.

The sheer size of the artworks spread across 11 neighbourhoods also works in VMF's favour. Some of the largest murals are several stories tall, allowing audience members to stand well back and still catch a view of the artist at work.

As in 2020, festival organizers are planning to host an outdoor pop-up patio with more than 40 live performances, if provincial health regulations permit. But, to find out the most up-to-date information about what's going on and where, the VMF app is an essential must-have. It's chock full of maps showing the locations of each mural, details about the artists and insights into their works.

"Vancouver has not slept during this pandemic," concludes Curtis. "We have continued to create and produce and to dream up new things that Vancouver never thought possible before. That's a big part of who we are and what we're doing – surprising Vancouverites and helping Vancouverites to surprise themselves." 📱





# Summer Reading List

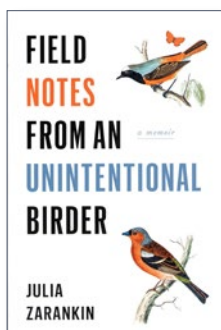
Fill your beach bag with these fantastic reads from B.C. publishers.

## FIELD NOTES FROM AN UNINTENTIONAL BIRDER

By Julia Zarankin,  
published by  
Douglas & McIntyre

Before finding herself at a cross-roads in life and looking for a new hobby to fill the void, Julia Zarankin hardly gave birdwatching a second thought. That is until the day she spied her first red-winged blackbird: “If this bird had been here all along, I thought, what else had I been missing?”

Not only did Zarankin come to proudly identify herself as a birder, her discovery of various species paralleled her realization that she too is a migratory being. Born in the former Soviet Union, growing up in Vancouver and Toronto, followed by stints in the U.S. and Paris, Zarankin was used to moving, but it was her birding journey that ultimately led to the discovery of her “wild side” and the delightful wonder of being attuned to the moment.



## BUTTER HONEY PIG BREAD

By Francesca Ekwuyasi,  
published by Arsenal  
Pulp Press

Francesca Ekwuyasi's debut novel *Butter Honey Pig Bread* tells the interwoven stories of three Nigerian women: twin sisters Kehinde and Taiye and their mother, Kambirinachi. Choices and their consequences, fears and trauma, and forces beyond anyone's control, drive the twins far away until their eventual return home to their mother in Lagos, where the three women must address their complex relationships and find a way forward.

Longlisted for the 2020 Scotiabank Giller Prize and a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award, *Butter Honey Pig Bread* is among *The Globe and Mail's* Best 100 Books of 2020.

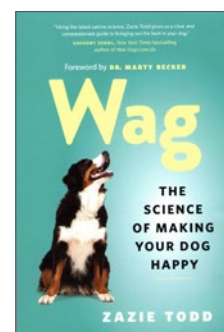
## WAG: THE SCIENCE OF MAKING YOUR DOG HAPPY

By Zazie Todd, published  
by Greystone Books

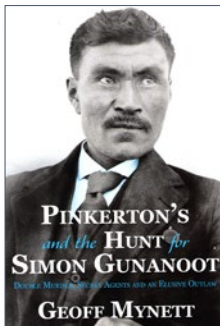
If you are among the many who acquired a pandemic puppy – or are contemplating getting a dog in the future – Zazie Todd's *Wag: The Science of Making Your Dog Happy* is a must-have summer read.

Todd, a social psychologist, certified dog trainer, columnist for *Psychology Today* and founder of the popular blog *Companion Animal Psychology*, translates the latest canine science findings into practical recommendations that are easy to understand and simple to implement.

Valuable tips interspersed with plenty of personal anecdotes make this an engaging read and one your happy pup will thank you for.







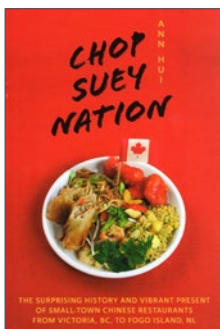
## PINKERTON'S AND THE HUNT FOR SIMON GUNANOOT

By Geoff Mynett, published by Caitlin Press

Simon Peter Gunanoot is the Gitksan trapper and storekeeper who in 1906 argued and then fought with a packer named Alex

MacIntosh. When MacIntosh's dead body was found the next morning, police quickly concluded Gunanoot and his brother-in-law were the killers and the chase was on.

A retired Vancouver lawyer, author Geoff Mynett has meticulously researched this dramatic tale of one of British Columbia's most famous fugitives and the undercover Pinkerton agents assigned to find him. And while the story may be more than 100 years old, it provides insight into the tensions around land and settlement that echo still today.



## CHOP SUEY NATION

By Ann Hui, published by Douglas & McIntyre

"There's tons of great, authentic Chinese food all over the country, and yet this 'chop suey' stuff – this *not*-Chinese Chinese is still everywhere. Why?"

Fascinated by this question,

*The Globe and Mail's* national food

reporter Ann Hui struck out on a quest to explore the dozens of Chinese restaurants that dot towns and cities across Canada. Traveling from Victoria to remote Fogo Island in Newfoundland, "The question I was looking to answer was simple," she writes. "How did you wind up here? What brought you here?"

Part road trip diary, part culinary exploration, the story of Hui's cross-country expedition is sprinkled with historical context and revelations made along the way of her own family's immigrant experience.

**Looking for more great B.C. reads?** Check out *Read Local BC* ([readlocalbc.ca](http://readlocalbc.ca)) to find the latest B.C. Bestsellers List, a full directory of bookstores in the province, author interviews and much more.

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# Pack the Perfect Picnic!

BY SUE KERNAGHAN

Photo: Matt Shannon Photography





*PICNICS: What's not to like? They provide the perfect opportunity to get outside, enjoy the scenery and support local eateries — all while impressing your picnic partner with your impeccable taste in al fresco fare. Since 2021 looks set to be a year of outdoor dining, we checked with some local experts on how to get it right.*

## VANCOUVER

### Meat & Bread

796 West Broadway and other locations

“Picnics are about great food and a great location, and about simple things done well,” says Dustin May, CEO of Vancouver’s Meat & Bread.

This mini chain has four downtown outlets, with the West Broadway location just blocks from leafy waterfront Charleson Park. Try the signature porchetta with salsa verde and crackling, or the buffalo chicken with slaw. Both are served hot (in compostable containers) but travel well. Add a pickle, a bag of Hardbite Chips and a cold ginger beer for a well-stocked picnic basket.

### The Dirty Apron

540 Beatty Street

Also home to a popular cooking school and caterer, this Beatty Street deli is a top spot for picnic fixings. Creative baguette sandwiches (think mascarpone and grilled pear; or prosciutto, fig and brie) pair nicely with seasonal fresh salads and house-made cookies and brownies.

“Our favourite picnic spot close to The Dirty Apron is

Coopers Park. It’s close to downtown as well as right next to the seawall, so it’s perfect for a post-picnic stroll,” says co-owner Sara Robertson.

“To us a picnic is all about the food, the drink, the company and the view. Since we take care of the food, we recommend blankets for those lazy evenings by the water and a cooler to keep drinks at enjoyable sipping temperature.”

### Lil Bird Sandwich Co

2525 Main Street

This tiny take-out tucked inside Kafka’s Coffee at Main and Broadway elevates the simple sandwich with house-made bread and grass-fed, free range proteins. Try the Super Chicken Shawarma on a sourdough hoagie, or the Corned Beef Reuben on marble rye. Add lemon herbed chips and head to nearby Dude Chilling Park to, well, chill.

## VICTORIA

### Part and Parcel

2656 Quadra Street

Victorians love the innovative sandwiches at Quadra Village’s Part and Parcel: think fried kamut chicken with chili garlic mayo, or katsu pork with spicy mustard. One

of the biggest hits, says Chef Nick Maharaj, is the charred broccoli and feta, made with pickled onions, date purée and mint. “It’s surprisingly good,” he says, “and also available vegan.”

Add some spiced hibiscus punch, or perhaps a bottle of Unsworth Gamay. Wark Street Park is just around the corner, or it’s a quick drive to either Beacon Hill Park or the beaches along Dallas Road.

### Picnic Too

1019 Fort Street

Here’s a pro tip: If you send a map pin ahead of time, Picnic Too will deliver a Picnic Charcuterie Box straight to your beach blanket.

Six themed boxes, all stocked with local, sustainable goodies, range from the Greek-themed Mezze to the all-treat Dessert box. The most popular, according to general manager Kayla Brown, are the Classic — a spread of brie, salami, manchego, and pepperoni with ciabatta and sourdough crostini — and the Vegan, featuring house-made cashew cheese and plant-based charcuterie.

Add some hibiscus iced tea or a local cider, bring your own checkered blanket, and you’ve officially won at picnics. 🍷





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